

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Secretary to Government*):

- (a) £. 10.
- (b) No information is available;
- (c) A dividend of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent was declared for the year 1939.

**GOODS DELIVERED AT ERNAKULAM RAILWAY STATION—
TERMINAL CHARGES—APPORTIONMENT OF**

7. Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): Will the Government be pleased to inform.—

- (a) whether there is any terminal charges imposed on goods traffic by the South Indian Railway Company on goods delivered at Ernakulam Station;
- (b) if so, what is the actual terminal charge collected during the years 1937, 1938 and 1939;
- (c) does the Company pay the whole or any portion of this terminal charge (if any is levied) to our Cochin Government;
- (d) will the Government be pleased to inform to whom is this terminal charge, if any, is levied, credited?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Secretary to Government*):

- (a) Yes.
- (b) Terminal charges are not separately recorded but are credited to the Railways concerned together with the freight charges. Hence the figures of actual terminal charges collected cannot be furnished.
- (c) The terminal charges collected at Ernakulam on traffic booked to or from Ernakulam are credited in full to the State Railway earnings.
- (d) Vide answer to sub-division (c).

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): May I know, what is the rate of terminal charge?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Secretary to Government*): They vary with commodities. Ordinarily 6 pies.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): For how much?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Secretary to Government*): 6 pies per maund.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): Answer to (c) is that the whole terminal charges are credited; answer to (b) is that you do not know what the charges are.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Secretary to Government*): That is the exact amount for all the years. Terminal charges are not separately recorded, but we do know that the terminal charges payable are credited.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): Is it a uniform rate of 6 pies?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Secretary to Government*): Except for certain specified articles, 2 pies or 3 pies.

RAILWAY PASSENGER FARES AND FREIGHT—INCREASE OF

8. Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): Will the Government be pleased to quote whether the rates of goods and passenger traffic on the State (Shornur-Ernakulam) Railway have been increased or are they to be increased; if so, from what date;

(b) will the increase in rates enure to the benefit of the State;

(c) will the Government be pleased to inform whether there is any clause in the agreement between the State and South Indian Railway Company, by which this increase in rates as a war measure should merge into the general revenue accounts of the South Indian Railway Company?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Secretary to Government*): (a) There has been a general increase in charge of 2 annas in the rupee on the total freight charge on coaching and goods traffic, and of one anna in the rupee of the total passenger fare where the single journey fare is more than rupee one, on all the Indian Railways (including the S. C. Railway) from 1st March 1940.

(b) The increase in the earnings on the State Railway on account of the increased charge is credited to that Railway and consequently the State also will be benefitted.

(c) No.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): How are those charges increased for war purposes?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Secretary to Government*): Not that we are aware of.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): Why are the charges increased?